

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINGST 03415 031854Z

42

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 IO-15 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 OMB-01 DRC-01 AID-20 PC-04 EB-11

COME-00 TRSE-00 /163 W

----- 004184

R 031730Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3063

INFO USMISSION USUN NY

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

PORT OF SPAIN 750

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINGSTON 3415

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, JM

SUBJ: DUDLEY THOMPSON LOSES ONE

REF: KINGSTON 3405

1. DUDLEY THOMPSON, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MICHAEL MANLEY'S GADFLY NON-ALIGNED SPECIALIST, ONE-MAN FIRE BRIGADE ON RACISM, AND LONG TIME POLITICAL LOSER, LOST ANOTHER FIGHT AT THE SEPTEMBER 30 PNP CONVENTION WHEN HE WAS OUSTED FROM ONE OF THE FOUR PARTY VICE-PRESIDENCIES. IN THE VOTING, THOMPSON RAN SIXTH IN A FIELD OF SIX FOR THE FOUR SLOTS AND WAS REPLACED BY MINISTER OF HOUSING, ANTHONY SPAULDING, WHO OBTAINED THE SECOND HIGHEST NUMBER OF VOTES. SPAULDING JOINS INCUMBENT VICE PRESIDENTS MINISTER OF INDUSTRY, COMMERCE AND TOURISM P.J. PATTERSON, MINISTER OF PENSIONS AND SOCIAL SECURITY HOWARD COOKE, AND SENATOR WILLIAM ISAACS IN THE PARTY HIERARCHY. MANLEY WAS REELECTED PARTY PRESIDENT BY ACCLAMATION

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PAGE 02 KINGST 03415 031854Z

2. COMMENT. THOMPSON'S DEFEAT IN THE VICE-PRESIDENCY RACE BY NO MEANS SPELLS THE END OF HIS POLITICAL CAREER IN JAMAICA-HE IS STILL LEADER OF GOVERNMENT BUSINESS IN THE SENATE. IT DOES, HOWEVER, ADD TO THE LIST OF POLITICAL DEFEATS HE HAS SUFFERED (HE WAS ROUNDLY DEFEATED BY EDWARD SEAGA IN THE 1967 GENERAL ELECTION.) AND SHOULD FURTHER DIMINISH HIS INFLUENCE WITHIN THE PNP AND WITH MICHAEL MANLEY, WHO, IT IS RUMORED, IS HOLDING DUDLEY ON A TIGHT REIN. HEWITT

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